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American Society of Parasitologists Newsletter, v. 26, no. 3, Fall 2004

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American Society of Parasitologists

NEWSLETTER

Newsletter:

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From the *Editor* of the Newsletter

The ASP newsletter accepts information and news of a parasitological nature from all disciplines. Please assist me in making the content of the ASP newsletter highly relevant. We will be posting material on the web as they are generated by you, the **reader** and **contributor**.

Scott L. Gardner, Curator
Harold W. Manter Laboratory of Parasitology
University of Nebraska State Museum

From the Editor:

This newsletter is in the final stages of set up just as Hurricane Ivan is aiming directly between two parasitological hot spots. Ocean Springs Mississippi, the location of The Gulf Coast Research Laboratory and Mobile, Alabama, the site of our next national meeting. By the time you read this, the hurricane will be well inland and cleanup will have started. Below is a current photograph from space (complements of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) showing the western part of the northern hemisphere. The position of the eye of Ivan as of

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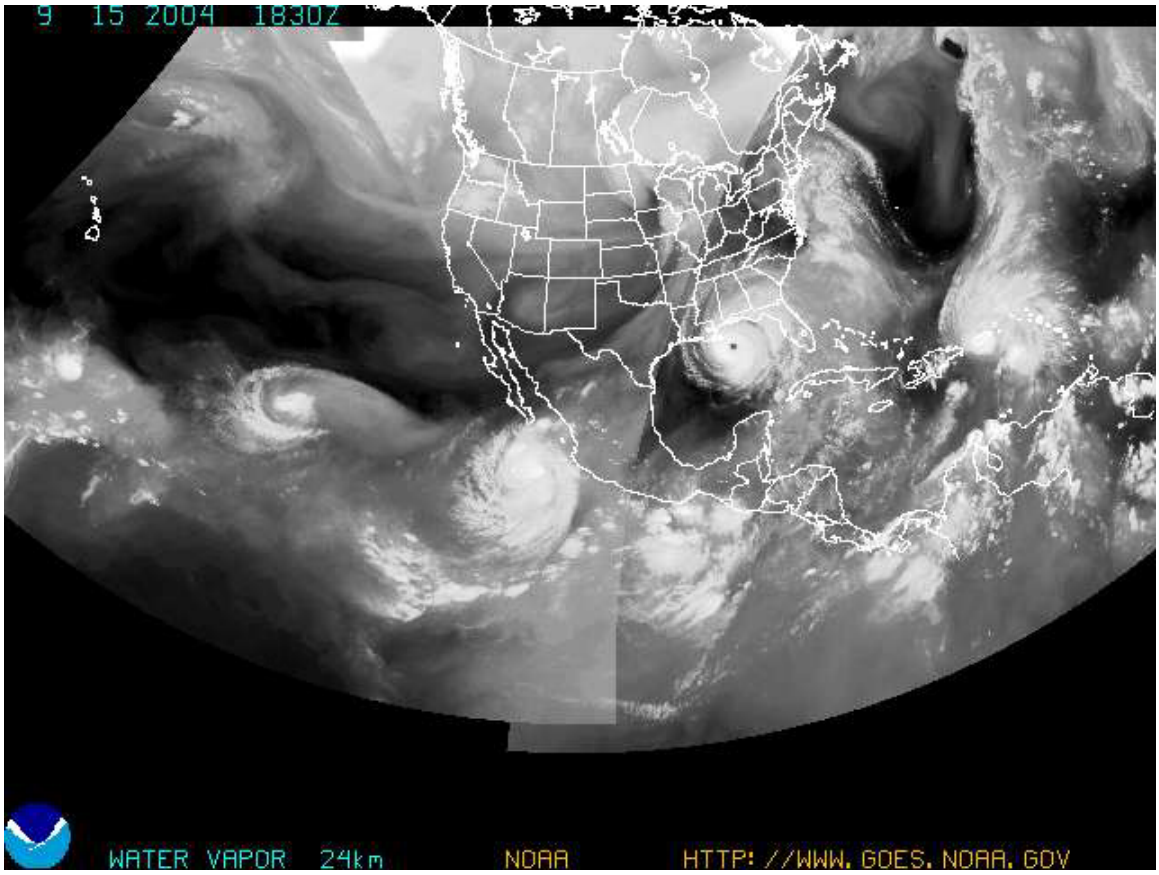
1830 Zulu Time = Universal Standard or Greenwich Time was just south east of Ocean Springs, MS. Also visible in the photo are several other tropical cyclones that either directly or indirectly are impacting what we, as humans, do in the northern hemisphere.



As global temperatures rise due to increased carbon dioxide and accumulation of other greenhouse gasses in our atmosphere, storms of this nature and magnitude will become more common as oceans warm.

You are probably thinking… What does this have to do with parasites and Parasitology? Why should we be concerned about this? I think that it is important to consider how we are changing the global environment, what is happening to the hosts of many of the parasites that we study, what is happening to the parasites and other symbionts themselves, and what the future holds not only for our discipline, but humans and the natural world in general. A recent paper in Science (2004, 305: 1632-1634) on "coextinction" illustrates this. As has been pointed out many times recently, parasites or symbionts with complex life histories are probably at higher risk of anthropogenic extinctions over time because of the intricate connections that must be maintained to keep the system operating. On the other hand, some redundancy is built in to diverse ecosystems. We shall see what happens, and perhaps with NEON on the horizon, we will be able to make some useful predictions if we are able to keep organismal biology and ecology and systematics in the ecosystem mix. -slg

Latin American Parasitology

By Agustín Jiménez Ruiz, Ph.D.

As a tribute to the members of the American Society of Parasitologists across the New World, we are presenting a series of articles that summarize the activities of our colleagues in several countries in Latin America.

The articles in this series will present laboratories and institutes following a northward expansion wave, starting in La Plata, Argentina, which I had the honor of visiting in 2001 to work with Dr. Graciela Navone. The Centro de Estudios Epidemiológicos y de Vectores (CEPAVE) is 25 years old this October. CEPAVE was founded by Dr. Sixto Coscarón as a center aimed to study a variety of topics ranging from host-parasite interactions to epidemiology. CEPAVE is sponsored by CONICET (Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Tecnológicas) and the Universidad Nacional La Plata. Since its foundation, people working in CEPAVE have approached the study of Parasitology as a multidisciplinary science, giving their students the chance to work on systematics, life cycles, and ecological analysis of data.

A brief summary of the activities of parasitologists with interest in helminthology follows.

Dr. Graciela Navone has directed several Ph.D. dissertations, her interests include the systematics, evolution, and interactions of parasites of mammals of the new World, with emphasis on Xenarthrans and Marsupials.

Dr. Juliana Notarnicola, finished her Ph.D. in May of this year, her expertise includes systematics and population dynamics of Filarioid nematodes (*Litomosoides*) in the La Plata basin. Currently she is a postdoctoral fellow at CEPAVE investigating the systematics of filarioid nematodes, including several species recently described.

Dr. Marcela Lareschi, also a postdoctoral fellow at CEPAVE is focussing her research on the systematics of ectoparasites (Anoplura and Siphonaptera) of sigmodontine rodents. She has experience working in institutions in Argentina and Brazil.

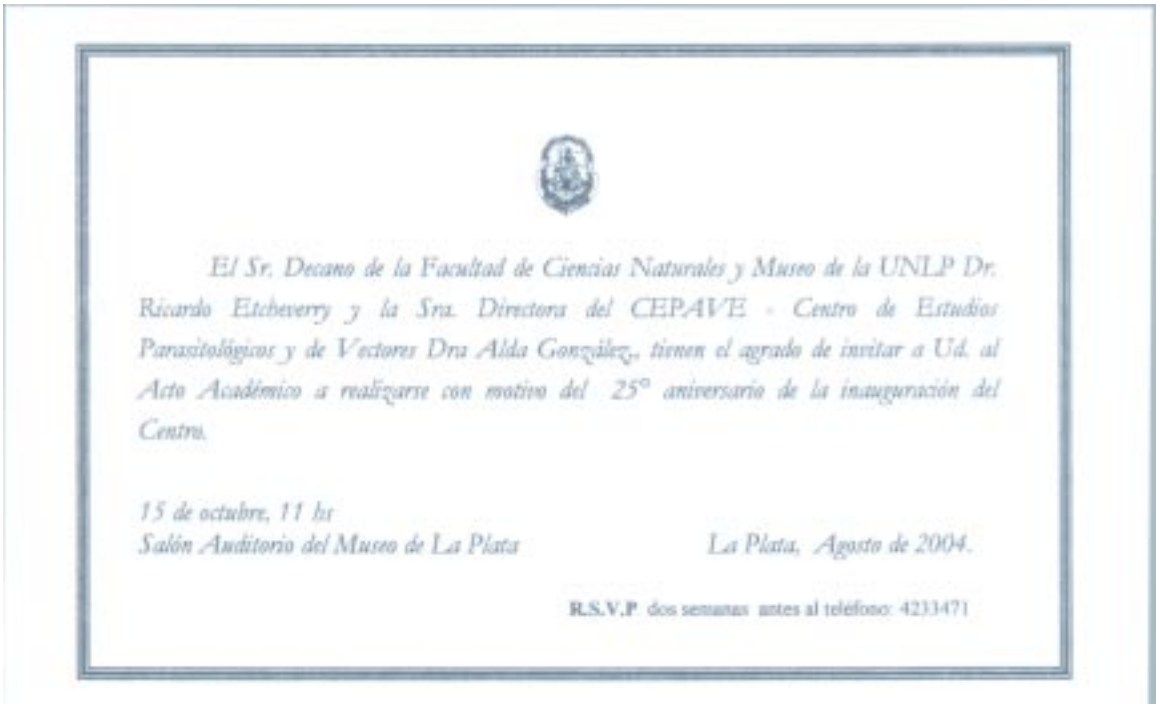
Rosario Robles is pursuing her Ph.D. working on the systematics of nematodes of sigmodontine rodents, chiefly *Syphacia* and *Trichuris*. This work, including that of Drs. Lareschi, and Notarnicola's is supported under the project "**Diversidad de ecto y endoparásitos de roedores sigmodontinos en Argentina".**

Another venue of research includes the study of shore-line marine environments. This research-line is leaded by Dr. Navone and Dr. Florencia Cremonte, director of the Laboratorio de Parasitología of CENPAT at Puerto Madryn. They both co-advise Julia Diaz and Cecilia Carballo and they work on the study of life cycles and systematics of helminths of bivalves, fish, and birds from the Valdés Peninsula of Argentina. Their research is part of the project "**Biodiversidad de Helmintos en ambientes costeros marinos del atlántico sudoccidental**", in which Dr. Sergio Martorelli and Sonia Laurenti also participate.

As a final note I should mention that Dr. Cremonte and Cecilia Carballo introduced me to the cultural experience of drinking mate, to which I got addicted not only for its bitter and strong flavor, but for the pleasure of sharing ideas and experiences while drinking from the same infusion.

Above, Dr. Navone collecting rodents in La Balandra on 3 August 2001

Below, invitation to attend the 25th anniversary celebration of CEPAVE



El Sr. Decano de la Facultad de Ciencias Naturales y Museo de la UNLP Dr. Ricardo Etcheverry y la Sra. Directora del CEPAVE - Centro de Estudios Parasitológicos y de Vectores Dra Alda González, tienen el agrado de invitar a Ud. al Acto Académico a realizarse con motivo del 25° aniversario de la inauguración del Centro.

15 de octubre, 11 hs
Salón Auditorio del Museo de La Plata

La Plata, Agosto de 2004.

R.S.V.P dos semanas antes al teléfono: 4233471

25th Anniversary

1979 – 2004

The Center for Parasitological Studies and Vectors (CEPAVE), is dedicated to scientific research in Systematics, Ecology, Parasitology, Invertebrate Pathology and Biological Control. It is jointly operated by the National Research Council (CONICET), Argentina, and the School of Natural Sciences and Museum (FCNyM), La Plata National University (UNLP). A number of multidisciplinary working groups, integrated by researchers, undergraduate and graduate students and lab technicians from national and foreign scientific institutions research, teach and provide public and private consulting.

Objectives:
The primary purpose of the CEPAVE is to conduct basic and applied research on the biology and ecology of parasites, parasitoids, predators and pathogens of invertebrates and vertebrates of economical, agricultural and/or sanitary importance. In addition, we offer a broad array of courses for academic and community programs, and consulting services to both public and private organizations.

Main Research Subjects:
- Plathyhelmints (monogenean, digenean and cestodes) and nematodes parasitizing vertebrates and invertebrates, of commercial and sanitary significance (human and animal).
- Nematodes and protozoans (microsporidians, gregarines and amoebas) parasitizing arthropods of sanitary significance and agricultural pests.
- Spiders, especially those of sanitary significance.
- Ectoparasites of humans, small mammals and domestic animals: mites, ticks, fleas and lice.
- Insect vectors of sanitary significance: mosquitoes, simulids, sandflies and triatomines.
- Agricultural pests (defoliating and bud boring larvae, spider mites, phytophagous hemipterans, and locusts and grasshoppers), as well as their natural enemies: entomopathogens, parasitoids (microhymenopterans and dipterans) and predators (predatory mites and spiders).
- Characterization of insects and their uses as biological control agents.

Activities in education and extension:
- Courses and workshops on selected topics, lab techniques training, and community interests.
- Consultancy services, training and transference to public and private organizations.

Services
- Identification and monitoring of pathogens and parasites (fungi, protozoans, bacteria, viruses and helminths) of vector arthropods, commercially-reared gasteropodes and earthworms. Assessment of cultural and biological control methods.

- Identification and monitoring of agricultural pests (insects and mites) and their natural enemies (insects, mites and spiders). Evaluation of chemical, cultural and biological control methods in intensive and extensive crop systems.
- LD-50 determinations of arthropods for laboratory and industry applications.
- Technical advising for the implementation of environmentally-sound pest control methods.
- Monitoring of mosquitoes, simulids, phlebotoms, locusts, grasshoppers, and bees, with emphasis in their control.
- Spider identification in the agricultural and sanitary field, and counselling in case of accidents, such as spider bites and scorpion stings.
- Identification of ectoparasites of medical and veterinary significance. Diagnosis and technical advising concerning their prevention and treatment.
- Taxonomic determination and epidemiology: diagnosis and prevention of parasites affecting domestic and wild animals as well as the man. Parasitological tests of blood, feces and invertebrate intermediate hosts.
- Certification of free-of-parasites edible decapods and molluscs, based on the OIE requirements on diseases.
- Technical advising to arthropod mass-rearing for laboratory assays, biological control, etc.
- Histological preparations.
- Scientific illustrations.

For further information please contact:

Centro de Estudios Parasitológicos y de Vectores (CEPAVE)
Address: Calle 2 N° 584 (1900) La Plata, Argentina
Ph: 054-221-4233471
Fax: 054-221-4232327
E-mail: cepave@cepave.com.ar
URL: www.cepave.com.ar

Director: Dr. Alda González
Sub-Director: Dr. Graciela Navone

Jobs

TO: ASP Members

FROM: John Janovy, Jr.

RE: Faculty position at the University of Nebraska Lincoln

Below is the position announcement for a molecular ecologist and/or evolutionary biologist. UNL tried to fill this position last academic year. We interviewed four people and offered jobs to two of the interviewees (i.e., two positions instead of one), both of whom declined for either personal reasons or acceptance of positions elsewhere. It would be truly wonderful if this position could be filled with a parasitologist. If you know individuals who are interested and qualified, please feel free to encourage them to apply.

MOLECULAR ECOLOGIST OR EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGIST — University of Nebraska, Lincoln

The School of Biological Sciences invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position at the Assistant Professor level with expertise in using molecular techniques to investigate evolutionary and/or ecological questions with an emphasis in organismal biology. Candidates will be expected to develop a rigorous research program and assume teaching responsibilities in undergraduate courses in the areas of biological diversity and/or ecology and evolution, and at the graduate level in their area of expertise. A Ph.D. in the life sciences is required and post-doctoral experience is preferred. To apply send a curriculum vita and copies of representative publications along with statement of research interests and teaching interests and philosophy. Also arrange for three letters of reference to be sent by January 1 to Jack Morris, School of Biological Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 348 Manter Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0118. The position will remain open until a suitable candidate is selected. UNL is committed to a pluralistic campus community through affirmative action and equal opportunity, and is responsive to the needs of dual career couples. We assure responsible accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act. For further information contact Jack Morris at 402-472-6676 for assistance.

BIOLOGIST
University of San Francisco
Assistant Professor
Tenure Track

The Department of Biology at the University of San Francisco invites applications for a TENURE TRACK position at the ASSISTANT PROFESSOR level, beginning August 2005, to teach upper division courses in the field(s) of specialty, participate in lower division courses for majors and non-majors, and establish an active research program. USF is an AAEOE. For details, please see http://www.usfca.edu/hr

Curator of the United States National Tick Collection

The Institute of Arthropodology and Parasitology, Georgia Southern University, invites applications and nominations for the position of Curator of the United States National Tick Collection (USNTC). The USNTC belongs to the Smithsonian Institution, but is on long

term enhancement loan to Georgia Southern University. It is the largest tick collection in the world, with over 123,500 tick collections housed in the Institute. This is a twelve-month, senior research position. The successful candidate will be a recognized scholar with an established and distinguished record sufficient to warrant appointment as a tenured, full professor at Georgia Southern University. Candidates must have a knowledge of systematics, research experience with ticks, and computer skills. They must also have a record of sustained research productivity and will be expected to develop a strong extramurally supported research program. Command of written and spoken English is required. Highly motivated candidates with strong backgrounds in systematics, both morphological and molecular, are encouraged to apply for the position. Candidates with extensive research experience with ticks, a record of obtaining extramural research funding, a knowledge of medical-veterinary entomology and parasitology, and the ability to work with diverse populations will be given preference. Search #49187.

Applicants must have Ph.D. or equivalent in area relevant to Acarology, Entomology or Parasitology. The position is open until filled, but screening of applicants will begin on November 1, 2004. Starting date April 1, 2005, or a later date by mutual consent. Salary is Commensurate with experience and level of accomplishment.

Applications including curriculum vitae, a list of publications, three letters of reference, a brief statement of qualifications and statement of philosophy on research should be sent to: Dr. James H. Oliver, Jr. Chair, Search Committee, Institute of Arthropodology and Parasitology, Georgia Southern University, P.O. Box 8056, Statesboro, GA 30460-8056

Additional information is available at http://www.GeorgiaSouthern.edu/ at http://ChronicleCareers.com/profiles/911.htm. Georgia Southern University is a comprehensive institution committed to serving a diverse study body. The University seeks to recruit individuals who are committed to working in diverse academic and professional communities.

The names of applicants and nominees, vitae, and other non-evaluative information may be subject to public inspection under the Georgia Open Records Act. Georgia Southern University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution. Individuals who need reasonable accommodations under the ADA in order to participate in the search process should contact the search chair.

Research Scientist
Special/Global Soil Biodiversity & Ecosystem Processes

The Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory at Colorado State University seeks a full-time research scientist to take a leading role in a 3-year project to study the biogeographical distribution and diversity of soil mesofauna. The successful candidate will join an interdisciplinary team to study latitudinal gradients of soil invertebrate diversity and ecosystem processes to enhance our understanding of linkages between above and belowground diversity patterns. The ideal candidate will have an interest and broad expertise, or willingness to develop expertise for coordinating field research and molecular, morphological, and soil ecosystem data sets. The successful candidate will be based at CSU and collaborate closely with project investigators in the United States and UK, including participation in

design and implementation of new studies. Collaborators on this project include Diana Wall (Colorado State University), James Garey (University of South Florida), and Richard Bardgett (University of Lancaster, UK).

A Ph.D. in soil ecology, soil nematology or other soil invertebrate taxa, soil science, soil biogeochemistry or related discipline is required. Enthusiastic candidates are encouraged to apply, and familiarity with soil biodiversity, soil ecosystem processes, biogeography and managing large ecological data sets would be an advantage, as would experience with field work and one or more of the following: regional or global soil biogeochemistry, soil ecology, spatial design, field methods, statistical analysis, data synthesis, and manuscript publication. Candidates should be comfortable in an interdisciplinary setting and be willing to learn new skills as needed in the context of the project. Traveling for meetings and international fieldwork is required. Molecular expertise is valued but not required.

Starting salary $37,000-$40,000/year, plus benefits, commensurate with experience and qualifications. The position is for three years, subject to continued availability of funds and performance. Applications must be received by September 1, 2004, with starting date as soon as possible thereafter. Send CV, statement of research interests and experience, and contact information for three references to: Natalie Lucero, Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO 80523-1499 or natalie@nrel.colostate.edu . (-This is late, but in case the job is still open, I decided to run the ad – editor)

Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, veteran status or disability, or handicap. The University complies with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, related Executive Orders 11246 and 11375, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Act of 1974, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, American Disabilities Act of 1990, and all civil rights laws of the State of Colorado. Accordingly, equal opportunity for employment and admission shall be extended to all persons and the University shall promote equal opportunity and treatment through a positive and continuing affirmative action program. The Office of Equal Opportunity is located in 101 Student Services. In order to assist Colorado State University in meeting its affirmative action responsibilities, ethnic minorities, women, and other protected class members are encouraged to apply and to so identify themselves.

Grants

[None posted for this newsletter]

Meetings

Proteomics Workshop **2004 Pre-Meeting Course** November 6, 2004 –

Fontainebleau Hilton – Miami Beach, Florida

Co-sponsored by the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene and the

American Committee of Molecular, Cellular and Immunoparasitology (ACMCIP)

Overview

This one-day course immediately precedes the ASTMH 53rd Annual Meeting, to be held November 6-7, 2004 at the Fontainebleau Hilton in Miami Beach, Florida.

This pre-meeting course is intended to provide a general overview of the emerging field of proteomics research and to suggest new directions and opportunities for applying proteomics research to problems in tropical disease research. Speakers are internationally recognized authorities on proteomics. A syllabus with detailed outlines and references will be provided, and time for interaction with the presenters will be available.

Proteomic technologies are taking a prominent place in the minds of physicians and scientists as a means to harness the power of modern genomics. For many of the members of the ASTMH, proteomics represents an opportunity to better understand basic biological principles for organisms that heretofore have not had the benefit of large-scale genomic sequencing. For physicians, drug and vaccine developers high throughput approaches toward drug and vaccine target identification and validation hold the promise of developing new interventions against world killers such as malaria, African sleeping sickness and others. Proteomics is at the forefront of these technologies.

Target Audience

Scientists, physicians, clinicians, graduate students and educators with interests in parasite microbiology, immunology and cell biology and those involved in vaccine and drug target discovery who wish to gain a better understanding of genomics and proteomics technologies should attend. This course will also benefit those who want to stay abreast of the rapidly advancing applications in genomics and proteomics and the underlying principles of these cutting edge technologies.

Tentative Schedule Saturday, November 6; 8 am – 5 pm

Course Topics

Mass Spectrometry-Based Proteomics ∑ Mass Spectrometry Technology and Informatics

for Proteomics ∑
Proteomics ∑
Proteomics Technologies ∑
ORFeomics ∑
Proteomics
Quantitative Proteomics ∑ Accurate Mass
2-D Gel/Mass Spectrometry
Protein Microarrays ∑ Yeast Two Hybrid ∑
Chemical Proteomics ∑ Comparative

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Visit the ASTMH Web site at http://www.astmh.org for online registration and course details.

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Please send me more information!

Return to ASTMH, 60 Revere Drive, Suite 500, Northbrook, IL 60062 USA, fax to 847/480-9282 or e-mail astmh@astmh.org.

_____ **Please send me a brochure for the ASTMH Pre-Meeting Course, "Proteomics Workshop," when available.**

_____ Please send information about membership in ASTMH.

Name_____

Address_____

City/State/Zip/Country_____

Phone _____

Fax _____

E-Mail_____

Dear Colleague,

This is a second announcement that the 6th International Crustacean Congress (ICC6) will take place at the University of Glasgow, Scotland UK from July 18th - 22nd 2005. The Meeting will also host the 5th European Crustacean Conference, the 4th Crustacean Larval Conference and the 2005 Summer Meeting of the Crustacean Society. Among the planned symposia is a plenary session on "Diseases of Commercially Important Crustacea." This symposium will have papers on viruses, bacteria, several protozoans, and a few metazoan parasites. The number of intending delegates who have pre-registered has now passed 300, from over 60 countries. We therefore anticipate a well-attended and stimulating congress! The number of planned Special Symposia has now reached seven, and details of these can be viewed on the ICC6 website (www.gla.ac.uk/icc6). A colour poster and flyer of the Second Announcement for ICC6 can also be downloaded from the website. Please assist our advertising by printing these off and displaying them in your department or at scientific meetings you attend over the coming months.

You can still pre-register by submitting the 'Expression of Interest' webform. This is most

helpful for gauging interest in the different topics, so that we can plan sessions to match these interests. We are still accepting suggestions for sessions, but the programme is filling up rapidly, so intending conveners are asked to send title, abstract and list of speakers for proposed topics to me asap.

It is planned to open Registration and Abstract Submission in October, and a message will be posted to alert you to this.

Please consider coming to Glasgow in just over one year's time!

Regards

Douglas Neil

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www.gla.ac.uk/icc6
Web site of the 6th International Crustacean Congress (ICC6)
to be held at Glasgow, July 18th-22nd 2005

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http://www.vims.edu/~jeff/
http://www.vims.edu/tcs

News

Callaway Professor Receives Certificate of Distinction

James H. Oliver, Jr., Callaway Professor and Director of the Institute of Arthropodology and Parasitology at Georgia Southern University, was one of five scientists in the world to receive a Certificate of Distinction from the Council of the International Congresses of Entomology which met Aug. 15-21 in Brisbane, Australia. The Citation read, Professor Oliver's major contributions include pioneering studies of cytogenetics and reproduction of ticks, and more recent seminal investigations of the interface among tick vectors, spirochetes, and vertebrate hosts. He has a remarkable ability to integrate basic and applied research of tick disease vectors that can serve as an example for research on other arthropod vectors. His international status has fostered cooperative research globally and has had a major impact in medical entomology, acarology, and parasitology in the broadest sense.

Chagas parasite invades genome

Typanosoma cruzi kinetoplast DNA found in the genomes of infected patients and animals

By David Secko

BioMedCentral (http://www.biomedcentral.com/news/20040723/01/)

How infection with *Typanosomacruzi*—an intracellular parasite that can hide out in the cells of the body—results in the development of chronic Chagas disease has been a mystery. Now a study in the July 23 *Cell* reports the integration of *T.cruzi* DNA into the genomes of infected patients, as well as chicken and rabbit animal models, suggesting that horizontal gene transfer may play a role in *T.cruzi* host–parasite interactions.
T. Cruzi infects some 16 to 18 million people in Latin America, and one third of these infections are estimated to result in chronic Chagas disease, which may not manifest itself until decades after an initial infection. A "major controversy" in the area of chronic Chagas disease research has been whether the presence of the parasite or an autoimmune reaction is its potential cause, said David Campbell, from the University of California, Los Angeles, who was not involved in the *Cell* study.

"[The *Cell* study] provides a fascinating insight into possible mechanisms of Chagas disease… in that the parasites 'presence' may be as little as a piece of integrated DNA," Campbell told *The Scientist*.

Nadjar Nitz, Antonio Teixeira, and their colleagues, from the University of Brasilia, undertook the study after hypothesizing that genetic transfer might be occurring between *T.cruzi*

and a host genome. Upon analyzing genomic DNA from 13 patients with Chagas heart disease by polymerase chain reaction and Southern blot analysis, they detected *T.cruzi* mitochondrial DNA, which is termed kinetoplast DNA (kDNA), in each patient.

To further investigate, Nitz, Teixeira, and their colleagues moved their research into rabbits, and once again detected kDNA in the genomic DNA of infected rabbits, although they could find no indication of nuclear *T.cruzi* DNA. Additionally, they infected chickens, which are resistant to persistent *T.cruzi* infection. Chickens' eggs injected with *T.cruzi* gave rise to hens and roosters with detectable kDNA, and when bred, gave rise to offspring with inherited kDNA.

"We give an account of horizontal gene transfer between eukaryotes far apart in the kingdom," said Teixeira, who speculates that such kDNA integrations could have all sorts of effects, from the disruption of genes to the production of chimeric proteins. Thus, Teixeira feels that Chagas disease might have a genetic disease component.
"I think that the results are provocative," said David Engman, from Northwestern University, who was not involved in the study. "It should not be surprising that kDNA is integrated, though, since the parasite seems to do naturally what many of us do every day using electroporation," he said.

Larry Simpson, from the University of California, Los Angeles, who was not involved in the study, agreed. "It makes sense that for an intracellular parasite, of which some die and their DNA gets degraded, that their repetitive DNA-containing sequences would get integrated," Simpson told *The Scientist*.

Both Engman and Simpson cautioned that it is not yet clear if the integration of kDNA is involved in the pathology of Chagas disease. "Much more needs to be done before this can be concluded," said Engman. Nevertheless, the research brings exciting new questions, including whether "this also occurs during intracellular infection with other organisms [such as Leishmania]," he said.

Apart from its potential role in Chagas disease, the integration of *T.cruzi* kDNA into host genomes also raises questions of its effect on evolution. "If this process involves the germline, integrated kDNA could theoretically alter human genetics through disruption of protein-coding sequences and promotion of recombination events between kDNA integration sites," Engman told *The Scientist*.

While the results are unlikely to end the debate on what causes chronic Chagas disease, "these data open the door to completely new ways of thinking about the host–parasite relationship, the consequences of chronic infection, and an intracellular lifestyle," said Campbell.

Editor's note: See a letter on this story.

Links for this article
N. Nitz et al., "Heritable integration of kDNA minicircle sequences from *Trypanosoma cruzi* into the avian genome: insights into human Chagas disease," *Cell*, 118:175-186, July 23,

2004.
http://www.cell.com/

A. Prata, “Clinical and epidemiological aspects of Chagas disease,” *Lancet Infectious Diseases*, 1:92-100, September 1, 2001.
[PubMed Abstract]

David A. Campbell
http://www.mimg.ucla.edu/faculty/campbell/

University of Brasilia
http://www.unb.br/

David Engman
http://cruzi.pathology.northwestern.edu/engmanlab/welcome.html

By Patrick Fisher and By TS Raman, ‘Readers respond’
http://www.biomedcentral.com/news/20040727/03

Deadly Human Parasite Sequenced

Genome News Network (http://cmbi.bjmu.edu.cn/news/0404/9.htm)
By Kate Ruder

The finger-like cells of C. parvum rupture from their oocyte—ready to attach themselves to the cells of our intestines.
Image courtesy C. Pearson, G. Widmer, and S. Tzipori/Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine.
Scientists have sequenced the genome of a parasite that infects people’s intestines and can be deadly for individuals, such as AIDS patients, who have weak immune systems. There are no effective drugs to treat the infection despite decades of research.

Now, the genome sequence reveals that the parasite, Cryptosporidium parvum, lacks some of the key structures that similar parasites carry—which could explain why many drugs have failed.

“One of the most important conclusions of the research is that most drugs don’t work because the targets of the drugs are missing,” says Mitchell Abrahamsen of the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, who led the sequencing project.

Researchers did find several proteins that show potential as new targets for drugs. Because the parasite cannot be grown outside its animal hosts, it has been incredibly difficult to study until now.

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases classifies the parasite as a level B pathogen because of its threat as a bioterrorism weapon.

The waterborne parasites live in most lakes and rivers in the United States, and they can get into public drinking water supplies. They are exceptionally hardy, with tough cell walls that are resistant to chemicals such as chlorine, which is often used to treat drinking water.

In 1993, 400,000 people in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, became sick from the parasites, which were living in the public drinking water. The most common symptom is diarrhea. A number of AIDS patients are also thought to have died during the Milwaukee outbreak.

Scientists identified the parasite in the 1970s, but it wasn't until AIDS became widespread that people realized the seriousness of the disease. The parasites also infect animals, and up until that time it had been viewed largely as a disease in livestock.

Abrahamsen, M.S. et al. Complete genome sequence of the apicomplexan, Cryptosporidium parvum. Published online in Science Express March 25, 2004.

Roadless Rules for Forests Set Aside: USDA Plans to Reverse Clinton Prohibitions

1. Roadless Rules for Forests Set Aside:USDA Plans to Reverse Clinton Prohibitions. Juliet Eilperin, Washington Post. July 13, 2004; Page A01 C 2004 The Washington Post Company

The Bush administration said yesterday it plans to overturn a Clinton-era rule that made nearly 60 million acres of national forest off-limits to road-building and logging, setting aside one of the most sweeping land preservation measures in decades. Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman proposed replacing the Clinton rule with a policy that would allow governors to petition the federal government if they wished to keep certain areas roadless. She said this approach would encourage cooperation between state and federal officials and end the litigation that has dogged Clinton's "roadless" rule since its inception. "The prospect of endless lawsuits represents neither progress nor certainty for communities," Veneman said in a news conference yesterday in Idaho, which has more roadless land than any other state in the lower 48. "Our announcements today illustrate our commitment to working closely with the nation's governors to meet the needs of local communities, and to maintaining the undeveloped character of the most pristine areas of the national forest system." Western states and timber companies had challenged the roadless rule in six courts after Clinton put it in place before leaving office in January 2001. The regulation prohibited development in areas spanning more than 5,000 acres, accounting for nearly a third of the national forests. Twelve Western states are home to 97 percent of all roadless areas, some of which provide drinking water to local communities as well as wildlife habitat. The Bush administration had left the roadless prohibitions on the books but had not actively defended them in court, arguing that the rule was flawed because it did not take the needs of state and local communities into account. Later in 2001 officials adopted language that left the rule intact but allowed the Forest Service chief to allow exceptions in order to address

forest fire and public safety concerns. Officials said a ruling last year by a Wyoming federal judge invalidating the rule made a new policy necessary; the case is on appeal. An Idaho judge issued a similar injunction in 2001, which the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit later overturned.

James L. Connaughton, who chairs the White House Council on Environmental Quality, said the administration is trying "to settle this once and for all on a state-by-state basis" so "we will be able to implement a very full and effective roadless conservation policy." He said the administration is more focused on issues such as fire prevention and public safety than economic development in the national forests, which have a lower level of federal protection than wilderness lands. Environmentalists were quick to decry the proposal, which will be subject to public comment for the next 60 days. They noted that nearly 2.5 million Americans submitted comments when Clinton considered the issue, with the vast majority favoring the roadless policy. "It's another case of the Bush administration having happy talk on the environment, but it's basically rape and pillage," said Earthjustice attorney Doug Honnold, who has defended the rule in Idaho, Wyoming and D.C. courts. "The broader debate is: Should [national forests] be devoted to development and corporate subsidies, or should they be set aside for amenity uses like wildlife protection and places where people can go to avoid the crush of civilization?" Timber organizations hailed yesterday's announcement, saying the Clinton administration had excluded them from the process when it drafted the rule. "There weren't maps we could comment on, it was one-size-fits-all, and they didn't thoroughly analyze the consequences," said American Forests Resource Council Vice President Chris West, whose group represents 80 forest product manufacturers and landowners. Western Republicans praised Veneman for giving states more leverage, although the administration will make the final call. Sen. Larry E. Craig (R-Idaho) suggested that energy projects should be considered in some roadless areas.

Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne (R) said the Clinton rule implied "Washington, D.C., decision makers know more than those of us in Idaho what should work for us." But New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson (D), a member of Clinton's Cabinet, called the new plan "an abdication of federal responsibility" and a partisan move just months before the presidential election. Richardson said he will petition to protect "every single inch" of roadless areas in New Mexico. If the new rule is enacted, it could make the ongoing litigation moot but spur a new round of suits by environmentalists. "I don't think this is solving anything," said Jim Furnish, a 30-year veteran of the Forest Service who served as deputy chief from 1999 to 2001. "This means more controversy and more contention." The administration has pushed forward with several projects in roadless areas since last year, when a Wyoming federal judge issued a permanent injunction against the Clinton rule. As part of a settlement of a suit by Alaska, the Forest Service recently proposed eight miles of new road construction in a roadless area in Tongass National Forest to enable timber sales. It also approved logging by helicopter in 8,000 acres of the Siskiyou National Forest in Oregon. For the next 18 months, officials will follow the interim rule allowing exceptions for safety concerns. Once the new proposal takes effect, a governor would have to prepare a petition asking for greater or less protection than is called for under existing forest management plans, which are less stringent than Clinton's roadless rule. If the Forest Service accepts the petition, it would negotiate a detailed plan with the state.

2. Observatory (Science Notes from the New York Times - July 13) C 2004 The New York Times

** The Benefits of Smoke**
Plants do not live by carbon and nitrogen alone, of course. Some need smoke, for example, to help their seeds germinate. In the past several decades, research in North America, Australia and Africa has shown that many plant species that repopulate a burned area of forest or brush get a jump start from the fire's smoke.

Just what it is about smoke that promotes seed germination in species like brushes and grasses has not been known, however, until now. A group of Australian scientists has isolated and identified a seed-starting compound in smoke from burning cellulose, a major component in all plants.

The compound, described in a paper published online by the journal Science, is one of a class called butenolides. The researchers found that it is active at a wide range of concentrations and is capable of stimulating germination in many species that grow after forest and brush fires.

Now that it has been isolated, scientists can try to determine how the compound works and how it might be beneficial to agriculture – by speeding up the germination of certain weed species, for example, when preparing land for cultivation.

[For the full article at Science Express, go to http://www.sciencemag.org/sciencexpress/recent.shtml "A Compound from Smoke That Promotes Seed Germination." Gavin R. Flematti, Emilio L. Ghisalberti, Kingsley W. Dixon, and Robert D. Trengove. Published online July 8 2004; 10.1126/science.1099944.

** Another Threat to Gorillas**
Conservation groups are expressing alarm about recent land-clearing by illegal settlers in a national park in eastern Congo that is home to much of the world's small population of mountain gorillas.

Officials with the World Wide Fund for Nature, the Wildlife Conservation Society and the Zoological Society of London say that six square miles of the Mikeno section of Virunga National Park near the Ugandan and Rwandan borders was deforested this spring for agriculture as up to 6,000 people moved into the area. Most of the settlers were from Rwanda, the organizations say.

The Mikeno section and two adjacent parks in Uganda and Rwanda make up what is known as the Virunga Volcanoes area, a small reserve of 165 square miles with a population of 380 mountain gorillas, which are a subspecies of eastern gorillas. About 320 mountain gorillas live in another reserve in Uganda.

The Virunga Volcanoes area, which was the site of Dian Fossey's long-term study of the gorillas in the 1970's and 80's, had been considered a conservation success story recently, with the announcement in January of a 17 percent increase in the gorilla population in the

most recent survey. In all, through habitat protection and other measures, the number of mountain gorillas has increased about 12 percent since 1989. The Virunga Volcanoes area is also the home of the last remaining population of golden monkeys.

For more details from the Wildlife Conservation Society story, go to: http://wcs.org/353624/2788676

3. IMLS Awards $2.295 Million to Museums Collaborating with Community Organizations

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)announced $2,295,352 in grants to 8 museums to collaborate with neighboring organizations to address pressing community needs. The awards are funded under IMLS' National Leadership Grants program, the Museums in the Community category. The museums will match the grants with an additional $4,880,867. Fifty museums requesting over $12,818,183 applied for funds. For grants by state, please see http://www.imls.gov/whatsnew/stategrants0704mic.htm.

4. More on Permitting...

** By the end of 2005, the USFWS will end the migratory bird regional permitting programs (all permits, not just scientific research permits). There will be one central permitting office, probably not located in the DC area, although the policy functions will probably remain at the national office of the Division of Migratory Bird Management. All other permit functions - issuance, reporting, etc - will be handled by the one central office. In addition to promoting efficiency, this system will also eliminate interregional variation, which Paul acknowledged still exists.

The migratory birds permits office functions will be more web-based. The emphasis will be on biologically-based decisions. (This information was provided through Ellen Paul, director of the Ornithological Council.)

** Permitting Item # 2 New CITES Forms
According to USFWS staffer Amy Brisendine, there are new application forms and everyone should start using them. The web site also has information on who should be contacted, where the permit should be mailed, and including a return envelope if needed. As a reminder, "Be sure to reference your permit numbers in your correspondence!!" Online at: http://permits.fws.gov Application forms are available from http://forms.fws.gov. For information on the proposed new application fees, visit
http://permits.fws.gov/FederalRegister/FederalRegister.shtml

Questions ? Contact: Amy Brisendine, U.S. CITES Management Authority,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Rm 700,Arlington, VA 22203. Fax 703 358-2281

5. IABIN Seeks an Executive Director - Deadline Aug 2, 2004

The Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network is seeking a Director of the IABIN Secretariat.Candidates must be bilingual and have experience with complex international

initiatives and biological informatics networking. Interested individuals should send a resume (preferably by e-mail) and a written expression of interest, by 2 August 2004 to Richard M. Huber - email at RHuber@oas.org. Huber is Principal Environmental Specialist, Sustainable Development and Environment, Organization of American States. 1889 F Street., N.W., Suite 695, Washington, D.C. 20006 Tel: 202-458-3227. Fax: 202-458-3560.

6. The World Health organization has a lively Intellectual Property Newsletter (online) that covers a great deal of territory. You can sign up to receive electronic mailings, or move straight to the news section at: http://www.who.int/intellectualproperty/news/en/

To sign up or see more, go to: http://www.who.int/intellectualproperty/en/

7. “FROGS” - A Summer Blockbuster

It seems people are busting down the doors at the American Museum of Natural History, New York, to see FROGS: A Chorus of Colors, an exhibition that features more than 200 live frogs from over 17 countries. The show has been extended through January 9, 2005. Representing 24 species from countries such as Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Russia, Suriname, the United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Vietnam, the frogs range from the tiny golden mantella frog (less than an inch long) to the African bullfrog (up to eight inches in length) and are shown in re-created habitats, complete with rock ledges, live plants, and waterfalls. The exhibit introduces visitors to the richly diverse world of these amphibians through their evolution and biology, their importance to ecosystems, and the threats they face in the world’s changing environments. (The cost is $19 for full adult admission to AMNH including the FROGS show. That is $12 “suggested” general admission to the museum for adults; and $7 more if you want to see FROGS; $14 for kids.)

8. Collections: A Journal for Museum and Archives Professionals

Collections is a new, multi-disciplinary journal for all aspects of handling, preserving, researching, and organizing collections. Edited by Hugh Genoways of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, “Collections” has an editorial board of 30 senior professionals — including yours truly — and covers both academic and practical aspects of collections. Practitioners will be able to turn to the journal for the most up-to-date research in collections management. There will be both professional guidance and theoretical grounding from fields such as life science, art history, anthropology, history, conservation, law, museum studies, and library science.

The premiere issue (August 2004) is going to press. There will be two issues in 2004; and subsequently “Collections” will be a quarterly, with issues in February, May, August, and November. For subscription rates and information, go to: http://www.altamirapress.com/RLA/journals/Collections/Cart.shtml?action=addline

[Editor Hugh Genoways is also accepting manuscripts for future issues. Contact Genoways at mailto:hgenoways1@unl.edu.]

ACTION ALERT:
NSF RESEARCH BUDGET SLASHED BY $200 MILLION -
YOUR LETTERS NEEDED !!!

Despite strong support for NSF in the House, the House Appropriations subcommittee with jurisdiction over NSF proposed a $194 million cut for NSF's Research and Related Activities Account (RRA) on July 20 (the bill was approved by the full committee on July 22). If adopted, the proposed cut would mean the agency can fund ~2000 fewer grants next year. The proposed cut is just one more piece of bad news for researchers, as the Bush administration announced its intention to further cut the agency in FY2006 earlier this year (see story below and in the August issue of BioScience).

The cut to NSF is not due to a lack of appreciation in Congress for the agency, but rather a lack of funding for the VA-HUD subcommittee to work with. The VA-HUD subcommittee funds a variety of agencies and programs, including veteran's health care and housing programs. Subcommittee ranking member Rep. Alan Mollohan (D-WV) says the budget allocation for his committee was "totally inadequate." Other agencies in the VA-HUD bill suffered similar fates: $1.1 billion was cut from NASA and $600 million from EPA.

Over the past several years, the House has been more generous with NSF than the Senate. The subcommittee's chair, Rep. James Walsh (R-NY) and ranking member, Rep. Alan Mollohan (D-WV) are staunch supporters of the NSF and have been honored by science groups for their dedication to NSF.

AIBS will continue to work with other scientific organizations, such as the Coalition for National Science Funding (www.cnsfweb.org) and the Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition (www.esa.org/besc), to promote increased funding for NSF. BESC will be hosting a congressional visits day on September 28-29 to highlight the importance of biological and ecological research funded by the federal government. If you would like to participate in this event, please contact Adrienne Sponberg (asponberg@aibs.org). Contact your Representatives and Senators NOW. Even though appropriations bills are supposed to be finished by October 1 (the beginning of FY 2005), most policy analysts agree that the Senate is unlikely to act on the bill until after the November elections. Thus, scientists have plenty of time to show their support for NSF.

This is the perfect time to make an appointment with your Representatives and Senators, as they will be in the home district while Congress recesses in August. You can make an appointment by calling the district office closest to you (contact information can be found at www.house.gov and www.senate.gov). AIBS encourages you to go in groups for this visit. Groups of scientists from your department, your university or universities within your district may want to make a single appointment. Groups of 3-5 are ideal. If you visit your Representative, you should check to see if they signed the "Dear Colleague" letter in support of NSF. If they did, thank them. If they did not, encourage them to do so next year. You can check to see if they signed at http://www.aibs.org/announcements/040610_157_members_of_congress.html. If you need assistance arranging visits in your district, please contact AIBS. If you are unable to make an appointment, you are strongly encouraged to send letters in support of NSF to your members of Congress. You may also want to organize a letter for other scientists in your department or college to sign.

Regardless of whether you visit, write, or call, your communication should includes the amount of NSF funding for your state and organization, and a brief and easy-to-understand description of the research NSF supports in your lab/organization. Talking points, funding levels and other information (including sample letters) you will need for your communication will be posted at www.aibs.org by the end of this week.

NEON GETS THUMBS UP (AND $6 MILLION) FROM HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE For the second year in a row, the House Appropriations Committee has expressed support for the proposed National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON). NSF had requested funding for NEON in two places: $6 million in the Research and Related Activities Account for planning and design, and $12 million in the Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction Account to build the observatories. Last summer, the House had approved all funding for the project. However, following the NAS recommendation that NEON be organized differently than NSF had initially proposed, the final version of the appropriations bill funded only the funds for planning and design ($6 million) and instructed the agency to work towards achieving the NAS recommendations.

Since last year's final verdict on FY 2004 NEON funding came after the budget for FY 2005 had been finalized, this year's budget contained a request for $12 million to begin construction of NEON despite Congress's instructions to redesign the network. That funding request was denied, but Congress approved $6 million "for continued planning and design activities." Citing the NAS report, emphasized that "NSF is expected to consider and incorporate the Council's recommendations as it continues planning and design activities, particularly the NRC's recommendation to strengthen partnerships and collaborations with other federal agencies. The committee believes such collaborations are critical to maximize the use of existing observatory networks in order to avoid redundancy of federal research dollars and reduce the overall cost of the NEON project." Earlier this year, NSF solicited proposals from the scientific community for the development of a NEON Coordinating Consortium and program office. Those entities will initially plan and coordinate activities for NEON, and will ultimately be responsible for the construction and daily management of NEON. The results of that competition should be announced shortly.

NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL ISSUES NEW REPORT, RECOGNIZES IMPORTANCE OF SYSTEMATICS AND COLLECTIONS A White House policy initiative is to improve federal agency management. Part of this effort includes evaluating federal programs to determine whether they constitute core federal functions. Activities that are not inherently federal would be outsourced to the private sector. In this light, some science policy analysts have sought to ensure that policy makers understand that intramural and extramural federal science programs are indeed core functions of the federal government. To make this case and set forth a federal science policy, the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) has issued "Science for the 21st Century."
The report identifies "four broad federal science responsibilities: ensuring a diverse portfolio of fundamental research, science to support society's pressing challenges, the translation of science into concrete benefits, and the education of the next generation in math and science." Selected accomplishments and current federal policy from these four categories are the basis for the report's "shared vision" for the future, which makes a case that federal science programs are truly a national priority.

A theme throughout the report is the importance of interdisciplinary research to basic discovery as well as to addressing societies grand challenges in areas such as public health and safety, and environmental quality. The serendipity of scientific discovery is acknowledged and used to justify a commitment to funding all areas of science. For instance, the value of systematics and natural history collections is specifically recognized: “Systematics is a discipline that supports a wide range of scientific research through the development of taxonomies that organize the relationships between plants and animals as well as through the preservation of unique collections of species from around the world. In addition to providing the raw material for biological research, systematics contributes to the understanding of biodiversity and invasive species essential to solving problems in sustainable and conventional agriculture. Several Federal agencies collaborate in supporting systematics, including the Department of Agriculture (USDA), which recently developed a strategic plan for future investments to enhance access to its research collections, and NOAA, which contributes expertise in aquatic species as well as in information technologies. These investments will be used to build electronic databases and fund the preservation of existing collections.”

The NSTC was established by Executive Order on November 23, 1993. As a cabinet-level organization, NSTC provides the President with the guidance needed to coordinate science and technology policies across the federal government. Science for the 21st Century may be viewed online at www.ostp.gov/nstc/21stCentury .

STEM CELL RESEARCH MAJOR FOCUS AT DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION
Several speakers took aim at President Bush’s stem cell policy at the Democratic National Convention last week, calling for an end to the ban on embryonic stem cell research to “unleash the wonders of discovery.” Consistent with the Kerry campaign’s efforts to keep the convention positive, they refrained from criticizing Bush directly and instead emphasized the hope and possibilities of stem cells. Currently, the Bush administration does not allow federal funding for research that uses embryonic stem cell lines created after August 9, 2001, though such research may be done using private funding. Sen. Hillary Clinton spoke about stem cells in the context of health care reform, saying, “We also need to lift the ban on stem cell research and find cures that will help millions of Americans.” John Kerry framed stem cell research as the next breakthrough in a long tradition of American innovation by those who “reached for the impossible.” After mentioning the Wright brothers, Apollo, and the computer revolution, he asked, “What if we find a breakthrough to Parkinson’s, diabetes, Alzheimer’s and AIDS? What if we have a president who believes in science so we can unleash the wonders of discovery like stem-cell research and treat illness for millions of lives?” (Though AIDS cannot be cured with stem cells, the reference may have been a subtle dig at President Bush for placing ideology over science in AIDS prevention.)

Ron Reagan, son of former president Ronald Reagan, gave an entire speech on embryonic stem cell research, saying it “may be the greatest medical breakthrough in our or any lifetime.” He described a girl with juvenile diabetes who decorates her insulin pump with rhinestones, and explicitly contrasted her with the blastocysts from which embryonic stem cells are derived. Stem cells, he said, “are not, in and of themselves, human beings...They have no thoughts, no fears,” but the girl “has a mind. She has memories. She has hopes.”

Saying that stem cells may hold the key to her future, he asked, “What excuse will we offer this young woman should we fail her now?” Reagan offered the audience a choice “between true compassion and mere ideology” and concluded the speech by saying, “I urge you, please, cast a vote for embryonic stem cell research.”

ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN BIOLOGISTS ISSUES STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF EVOLUTION EDUCATION AIBS member society, the Association of Southeastern Biologists (ASB), has joined the National Center for Science Education’s (NCSE) Voices for Evolution. ASB has approved a statement supporting evolution education that partially reads: “Because creationism and intelligent design do not operate within the definional limits of science, they cannot and should not be treated as such. Neither movement can satisfy the aims of science, which are to make observations and develop questions to explain natural phenomena, to design tests of those hypotheses, and then to either accept or reject those hypotheses, based on a fair and objective evaluation of the evidence accumulated. Creationism and intelligent design offer a mixture of empirically untestable and empirically non-scientific hypotheses, which their proponents fail to retract or modify in the light of contrary evidence. Thus, they do not conform to accepted scientific protocols.”

The complete ASB statement and others may be viewed on the NCSE website at http://www.ncseweb.org/resources/articles/3422_statements_from_scientific_and_12_19_2002.asp#asb.

ASB is a regional association devoted to the promulgation of biology in all its myriad forms to scientists, students, and the general public. The Association represents biological scientists from throughout the southeastern region of the United States on various issues of concern.

NEW IN BIOSCIENCE: NSF FACING BUDGET CUTS At the end of 2002, scientists had cause to celebrate: Congress had approved a massive 15 percent increase in research funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and passed legislation that would authorize similar increases for the agency for five years, putting the nation’s home of basic research on a doubling track. Both events were viewed as big victories, given the post-9/11 budget situation. Now, however, less than two years later, the Bush administration has announced that it plans to cut funding for NSF in fiscal year (FY) 2006.

Continue reading at:
http://www.aibs.org/washington-watch/washington_watch_2004_08.html

Give your society or organization a voice in public policy decisions affecting your areas of science. Support the AIBS Public Policy Office’s ability to work with you, on your behalf. See http://www.aibs.org/public-policy/funding_contributors.html - AIBS special symposium. Evolutionary Science and Society: Educating a New Generation. Nov. 12th and 13th, 2004, Chicago IL at the National Association of Biology Teachers annual conference. Program and registration at http://www.aibs.org/special-symposia/ - BioScience for $12/yr! The BioScience Bulk-Purchase Program for Member Societies and Organizations. See http://www.aibs.org/announcements/031002_announcing_the_bioscience_bulkpurchase .html

The American Institute of Biological Sciences is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) scientific association headquartered in Washington DC, with a staff of approximately 30. It was founded in 1947 as a part of the National Academy of Sciences and has been an independent organization since the mid-1950s, governed by a Board of Directors elected by its membership. The AIBS membership consists of approximately 6,000 biologists and 80 professional societies and other organizations; the combined individual membership of the latter exceeds 240,000 biologists. AIBS is an umbrella organization for the biological sciences dedicated to promoting an understanding and appreciation of the natural living world, including the human species and its welfare, by engaging in coalition activities with its members in research, education, public policy, and public outreach; publishing the peer-reviewed journal, BioScience; providing scientific peer review and advisory services to government agencies and other clients; convening scientific meetings; and performing administrative and other support services for its member organizations.

Website: www.aibs.org.

Requests for Specimens and Data

TO: ASP members
FROM: JJJr
RE: Request from Shawn Meagher

Here is a note I received from Shawn regarding infected beetles. If anyone can help him out, it would be great. His email is sa-meagher1@wiu.edu. Thanks! JJ

John,

I'd like to get some Hymenolepis diminuta cysticercoids (in beetles) to do an infection experiment with my spring 2005 Parasitology course. Carolina Biological Supply has discontinued this item. Do you know a way to contact the parasitological community to try and get H. dim?

Thanks for your time!

Shawn

Shawn Meagher, Ph.D.
Biological Sciences
Western Illinois University
Macomb, IL 61455
309-298-2409

ASP Committee List 2005

Nominating Committee

	Term ends	Email	Snailmail
Chair: Janice Moore	July 05	janice.moore@colostate.edu	Dr. Janice Moore Department of Biology Colorado State University Ft Collins, CO 80523 (970)491-6764 Fax (970)491-0649
Thaddeus Graczyk	July 05	tgraczyk@jhsph.edu	Dr. Thaddeus Graczyk Dept. of Immunol. & Infectious Dis. School of Hygiene & Public Health Johns Hopkins University Baltimore, MD 21205 (410)614-4984 Fax (410)955-0105
Dennis Richardson	July 05	dennis.richardson@quinnipiac.edu	Dr. Dennis Richardson Quinnipiac College Campus Box 138 Mount Carmel Avenue Hamden, CT 06518 (203)582-8607 Fax (203)281-8706
Willard O. Granath, Jr	July 05	bill.granath@mso.umt.edu	Dr. Willard O. Granath, Jr. Division of Biological Sciences University of Montana Missoula, MT 59812 (406)243-2975 Fax (406)243-4184
Virginia Leon-Regagnon	July 05	vleon@mail.ibiologia.unam.mx	Dr. Virginia Leon-Regagnon Instituto de Biologia, UNAM Ap. Postal 70-153 Mexico City CP 04510 Mexico +52(55)56 220133 Fax +52(55)55 500164
Scott Seville (alternate)	July 05	sseville@uwyo.edu	Dr. Scott Seville Univ. of Wyoming/Casper Center 125 College Dr. Casper, WY 82601 (307)268-2543 Fax (307)268-2416

Business Advisory Committee

	Term ends	Email	Snailmail
Chair: Austin MacInnis	July 09	mac@biology.ucla.edu	Dr. Austin J. MacInnis Department of Biology UCLA P.O. Box 951606 Los Angeles, CA 90095-1606 (310)825-3069
Nancy Wisnewski	July 05	wisnewn@heska.com	Dr. Nancy Wisnewski Sr. Director, Pharmaceutical Research Heska Corporation 1613 Prospect Parkway Fort Collins, CO 80525 (970) 493-7272

Diane Ritter	July 06	dianne_m_ritter@groton.pfizer.com	Dr. Dianne M. Ritter Global Research and Develop. Pfizer, Inc. MS 8118D-2030 Eastern Point Road Groton, CT 06340 (860)441-1361
Chuck Sterling	July 07	csterlin@u.arizona.edu	Dr. Charles R. Sterling Department of Veterinary Science University of Arizona Bldg. 90, Room 202 P.O. Box 210090 Tucson, AZ 85721 (520)621-4580
Peter Hotez	July 08	mtmpjh@gwumc.edu	Dr. Peter J. Hotez Department of Microbiology & Topical Med. George Washington Univ Med Ctr. Ross Hall 7th Floor-2300 Eye St. NW Washington, D.C. 20037 (202)994-3532 Fax (202)994-2913
John Janovy,Jr.	Ex officio	jjanovy@unl.edu	Dr. John Janovy, Jr. School of Biological Sciences University of Nebraska Lincoln 424 Manter Hall Lincoln, NE 68588-0118 (402)472-2754

Henry Baldwin Ward Medal Committee

	Term ends	Email	Snailmail
Chair: C.P. Goater	July 06	Cam.goater@uleth.ca	Dr. C.P. Goater Department of Biological Sciences University of Lethbridge Lethbridge, Alberta T1K 3M4 Canada (403)329-2752
David Williams	July 06	dlwilli@ilstu.edu	Dr. David Williams Department of Biological Sciences Illinois State University Normal, IL 61790-4120 (309)438-2608
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Robert Grieve	July 05	ghillyer@rcm.upr.edu	Dr. Robert Grieve Heska Group 1825 Sharp Point Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525 (970)493-7272
George Hillyer	July 05	griever@HESKA.com	Dr. George Hillyer Department of Pathology and Lab Medicine

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Ashton Cuckler Young Investigator Award Committee

	Term ends	Email	Snailmail
Chair: Darwin Wittrock	July 05	wittrod@uwec.edu	Dr. Darwin D. Wittrock Department of Biology Univ. of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Eau Claire, WI 54701 (715)836-3614
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Jack O'Brien	July 06	jobrien@jaguar1.usouthal.edu	Dr. Jack J. O'Brien Department of Biological Sciences University of South Alabama Mobile, AL 36688 (251)460-6331
John Adams	July 05	jadams3@nd.edu	Dr. John H. Adams Department of Biological Sciences University of Notre Dame Notre Dame, IN 46556 (574)631-8676
Eric Wetzel		wetzele@wabash.edu	Dr. Eric Wetzel Department of Biology Wabash College P.O. Box 352 Crawfordsville, IN 47933-0352 (765)361-6074

Stoll-Stunkard Memorial & Eminent Parasitologist Lectureships Committee

	Term ends	Email	Snailmail
Chair: David Williams	July 07	dlwilli@ilstu.edu	Dr. David Williams Department of Biological Sciences Illinois State University Normal, IL 61790-4120 (309)438-2608
Daniel K. Howe	July 08	Dkhowe2@uky.edu	Dr. Daniel K. Howe Veterinary Science 437 Gluck Equine Research Center 0099 University of Kentucky Lexington, KY 40506 (859)257-4757 x81113
Gilbert Castro	July 05	gcastro@admin4.hsc.uth.tmc.edu	Dr. Gilbert A Castro Dept.of Physiology Univ. of Texas

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Book Reviews

SEASIDE PLEASURES

Ann Lingard
Littoralis Press
ISBN 0-9544572-0-X
£8.99
'A true two-culture achievement': **Matt Ridley**
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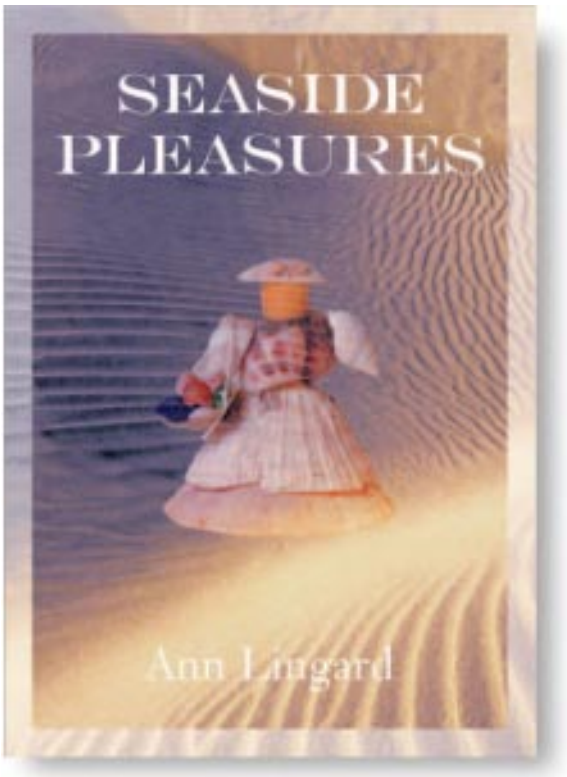
Synopsis



When Matt Myers decides to spend the summer with his mother at the Shell House, in a village on the South Cornish coast, he little guesses that he is about to step into the minefield of his family's past and recent history … Anne Church, a young Victorian; art student Matt and his mother, Hazel Myers; malacologist and parasitologist, Elizabeth Wilson: they are inextricably linked with each other and with the life and tragic death of Victorian evangelist Emily Gosse, wife of the naturalist Philip Henry Gosse. *Seaside Pleasures* ranges across time and geography, from Victorian Glasgow and the Clyde, to Ethiopia in the 1960s, and present-day Cornwall; the boundaries between fiction and fact become blurred, as the separate lives are woven together by the themes of shells and snails, science and religion, love and death — and the sea. Ann Lingard's other novels, *Figure in a Landscape* and *The Fiddler's Leg* are published by Headline Review; *Floating Stones* is published as an e-book by Online Originals www.onlineoriginals.com)

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Annual Midwestern Conference of Parasitologists
Helminthological Society of Washington
New England Association of Parasitologists
New Jersey Society for Parasitology
Northern California society of Parasitologists
Parasitology Section, Canadian Society of Zoologists
Rocky Mountain Conference of Parasitologists
Southeastern Society of Parasitologists
Southern California Society of Parasitologists
Southwestern Association of Parasitologists

Note to Members

The ASP Newsletter welcomes news stories and articles. Please send your text electronically to Scott Gardner as an e-mail and attach as an MS Word 6.0 document. Drawings, photographs, charts, or tables can be sent as B/W TIF files at 300 dpi. Please send TIF files one at a time. A general rule is to limit photograph size to 3x5". You may attach both text and graphic files to your email message -send me a note if you read this - Just wondering if anyone does...

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